

August 2, 2005

Federal Communications Commission

Re: WT Docket No. 05-235

I would like to file my comment to the referenced proceeding as in favor of the elimination of the Morse Code requirement for obtaining a license to operate in the Amateur Radio HF bands. Even though Morse Code has been demonstrated to be very valuable, I do not believe that knowledge of Morse Code should be a pre-requisite to operation using the HF bands as many other modes of communication exist that can be utilized. However, since the HF bands, by nature, permit easy communication with distant countries, I do feel that an applicant should be prepared and demonstrate knowledge of radio theory and accepted proper operating techniques. To this end I propose the following:

1. Elimination of the published question and answer pool of examination questions. Applicants should study and learn the material and demonstrate that knowledge through closed testing rather than their ability to memorize answers to specific questions.
2. Raise the passing grade for the examinations so that only those with good understanding of the material will be allowed to be licensed.

I believe that my Amateur Radio license is a privilege and that when we use the HF bands to communicate we operators are ambassadors for the United States and should have a thoroughly understanding of radio and propagation and demonstrate good operating skills. In my opinion the examination difficulty should be consistent with privilege allowed.

Sincerely,

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